

Application No. 10/693,163

July 11, 2005

Amendment responsive to Office Action of May 12, 2005

In the Specification:

Please amend add the following paragraph below paragraph 20:

The database statistics module 130 described above is not part of the database 110. The database statistics module 130 is either a separate module or a part of the content based image retrieval module 120. The database statistics module stores and maintains statistics regarding the database contents such as the histograms and timestamp correlations detailed above and below. The database statistics module is advantageously used to avoid repetitively and redundantly gathering and calculating database statistics. Furthermore, statistics can be obtained from the database statistics module without also accessing the database 110. It is also possible to obtain database statistics directly from the database 110 without accessing the database statistics module 130.